

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are now present in this application.

Claims 1-3 have been amended, and claims 8-11 have been presented.

Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Newly Presented Claims

Support for newly presented claims 8-11 can be found in the originally filed specification and Fig. 2 of the present application. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that no new matter is presented.

Rejection under 35 USC 102(b)

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by STRAHLIN, U.S. Patent 5,758,132. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

STRAHLIN does not teach, disclose or suggest providing first and second source clocks to two input terminals of a first multiplexer.

According to independent claim 1 of the present application, the first circuit block 30a receives the first source clock CLK1. Two input terminals of the first multiplexer 50 respectively receive the first source clock CLK1 and the second source clock CLK2, and an output terminal thereof is coupled to a clock input terminal of the second circuit block 30b. The second circuit block 30b receives the first source clock CLK1 or the second source clock CLK2 according to the operation of the first

multiplexer 50. When the second circuit block 30b is configured to operate in synchronization with the first circuit block 30a, the first multiplexer 50 selects the first source clock CLK1 to output to an output terminal of the second circuit block 30b. However, STRAHLIN does not provide two different source clocks to a multiplexer which selectively provides one source clock to output to the output terminal of the second circuit block.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1, as well as its dependent claims, is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art utilized by the Examiner.

Moreover, according to the presently claimed invention, the first source clock CLK1 is provided to two input terminals of a second multiplexer 40, and the second multiplexer 40 provides the first source clock CLK1 to the first circuit block 30a.

With regard to the newly presented claims, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also neither taught nor suggested by the prior art utilized by the Examiner. In view of the foregoing remarks, dependent claim 8 should be in condition for allowance based on its dependency from independent claim 1. It is additionally noted that, in claim 8, the first source clock CLK1 is provided to first and second input terminals of a second multiplexer 40. The provision of the first source clock CLK1 to the first and second input terminals of the second multiplexer 40 is clearly taught. This provision is definitely not taught by STRAHLIN.

In independent claim 9 and its dependent claims 10 and 11, the structures of a first circuit block, a second circuit block, a first multiplexer, and a second multiplexer are clearly set forth. These structures are also not taught by STRAHLIN.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claim 8-11 are neither taught nor suggested by the prior art utilized by the Examiner.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC 102(b) rejection are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that the Examiner considers claims 4-7 to contain allowable subject matter. However, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all claims should now be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

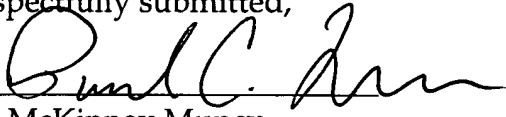
In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: May 23, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By


Joe McKinney Muncy

for Registration No.: 32,334

#43,368

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Rd

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant